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EXAMINER

LEROUX, ETIENNE PIERRE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

3

DATE MAILED: 03/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/966,598

Applicant(s)

FUKUDA ET AL.

Examiner

Etienne P LeRoux

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 21-23 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-20, drawn to an electronic commercial transaction system, classified in class 705, subclass 26.
- II. Claims 21-23, drawn to a stock management method, classified in class 709, subclass 223.

Inventions I and II are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the system claims 1-20 drawn to a system of commercial electronic transactions do not require the limitations of the subcombination of claims 21-23 drawn to a method of stock management. The subcombination has separate utility such as ensuring adequate supplies of a particular product are available on demand.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

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Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

A telephone call was made to Mr. Murat Ozgu on February 17, 2004 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement and did result in an election being made.

Claims 21-23 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

Election was made **without** traverse in telephone call on February 17, 2004 with Mr. Murat Ozgu.

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Applicant is reminded that in order for a patent issuing on the instant application to obtain the benefit of priority based on priority papers filed in parent Application No. 2 under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), a claim for such foreign priority must be made in this application. In making such claim, applicant may simply identify the application containing the priority papers.

The incorporation of essential material in the specification by reference to a foreign application or patent, or to a publication is improper. Applicant is required to amend the disclosure to include the material incorporated by reference. The amendment must be accompanied by an affidavit or declaration executed by the applicant, or a practitioner representing the applicant, stating that the amendatory material consists of the same material incorporated by reference in the referencing application. See *In re Hawkins*, 486 F.2d 569, 179 USPQ 157 (CCPA 1973); *In re Hawkins*, 486 F.2d 579, 179 USPQ 163 (CCPA 1973); and *In re Hawkins*, 486 F.2d 577, 179 USPQ 167 (CCPA 1973).

The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use. As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

(e) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.

(1) Field of the Invention.

(2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

(f) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.

(g) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).

(h) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.

(i) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).

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- (j) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

In instant application, Field of the Invention and Summary of the Invention have been omitted. Correction is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 9, 10, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Pat No 5,970,472 issued to Allsop et al (hereafter Allsop).

Claim 9:

Allsop discloses:

- said computer refers to a commodity data base [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57] based on commodity specifying information transmitted from a user terminal [user's browser 24, Fig 3] to specify a necessary commodity and transmits commodity data of said necessary commodity through a network [Fig 3];
- said computer refers to a dealing shop data base [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] based on destination information transmitted from said user terminal to extract at least a dealing shop in neighborhood [user initiates a dealer search to locate the

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nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49] of said destination and transmits dealing shop data of said dealing shop through said network [Fig 3]; and

- said computer transmits an order sheet [purchase products on-line, col 6, lines 4-5, shopping basket 51, Fig 6, hypertext pages 53, Fig 6, col 7, lines 45-50] through said network [Fig 3]

Claim 10:

Allsop discloses said computer refers to a commodity data base [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57] based on commodity specifying information transmitted from a user terminal [user's browser 24, Fig 3] to specify a necessary commodity and transmits commodity data of said necessary commodity through a network [Fig 3]; said computer refers to a dealing shop data base [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] based on destination information transmitted from said user terminal to extract at least a dealing shop in neighborhood [user initiates a dealer search to locate the nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49] of said destination and transmits dealing shop data of said dealing shop through said network [Fig 3]; said computer specifies a necessary dealing shop [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] from among said extracted dealing shops based on dealing shop specifying information transmitted from said user terminal [user's browser 24, Fig 3] and transmits dealing shop detailed data of said specified dealing shop through said network [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13]; and said computer transmits an order sheet [purchase products on-line, col 6, lines 4-5, shopping basket 51, Fig 6, hypertext pages 53, Fig 6, col 7, lines 45-50] through said network [Fig 3].

Claim 19:

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Allsop discloses said computer refers to a commodity data base [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57] based on commodity specifying information regarding a commodity to be dealt with as a gift transmitted from a user terminal [user's browser 24, Fig 3] to specify a necessary commodity and transmits commodity data of said necessary commodity through a network; said computer refers to a dealing shop data base [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] based on consignee information regarding a consignee of said gift transmitted from said user terminal to extract at least a dealing shop in neighborhood of said consignee and transmits dealing shop data of said extracted dealing shop through said network [Fig 3]; and said computer transmits an order sheet [purchase products on-line, col 6, lines 4-5, shopping basket 51, Fig 6, hypertext pages 53, Fig 6, col 7 lines 45-50] through said network.

Examiner Notes:

The above phrase "regarding a commodity to be dealt with as a gift" is drawn to intended use and is not given patentable weight.

Claim 20:

Allsop discloses said computer refers to a commodity data base [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57] based on commodity specifying information regarding a commodity to be dealt with as a gift transmitted from a user terminal [user's browser 24, Fig 3] to specify a necessary commodity and transmits commodity data of said necessary commodity through a network [Fig 3]; said computer refers to a dealing shop data base [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] based on consignee information regarding a consignee of said gift transmitted from said user terminal [user's browser 24, Fig 3] to extract at least a dealing shop [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] in neighborhood [user initiates a dealer search to locate the

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nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49] of said consignee and transmits dealing shop data of said extracted dealing shop through said network [Fig 3]; said computer specifies a necessary dealing shop [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] from among said extracted shops based on dealing shop specifying information transmitted from said user terminal [purchase products on-lines, col 6, lines 4-5, shopping basket 51, Fig 6, hypertext pages 53, Fig 6, col 7, lines 45-50] and transmits dealing shop detailed data of said necessary dealing shop through said network; and said computer transmits an order sheet through said network

Examiner Notes:

The above phrase “regarding a commodity to be dealt with as a gift” is drawn to intended use and is not given patentable weight

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later

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invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-8 and 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Pat No 5,970,472 issued to Allsop et al (hereafter Allsop) in view of US Pat No 6,680,919 issued to Rauhala (hereafter Rauhala).

Claim 1:

Allsop discloses an electronic commercial transaction system including a server and a plurality of user terminals capable of communicating with each other through a network, said server comprising:

- a commodity database having commodity data of various kinds of commodities recorded so as to be retrieved [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57]
- a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out delivery of said commodities including address recorded so as to be retrieved [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13];
- commodity specifying means for referring to said commodity database based on commodity specifying information transmitted from said user terminal to specify a necessary commodity [user's computer 20, Fig 3, col 4, lines 55-60];
- dealing shop extracting means for referring to said dealing shop database based on destination information transmitted from said user terminal to extract at least a dealing shop in neighborhood of said destination [user initiates a dealer search to locate the nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49].

- server side transmission means for transmitting commodity data of said commodity specified by said commodity specifying means, dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means and an order sheet to said user terminal [shopping basket 51, Fig 6 and col 7, lines 46-58]
- user terminal display means for displaying said commodity data, said dealing shop data and said order sheet transmitted from said server side transmission means on a display surface [user's browser 24, Fig 3]; and
- user terminal side transmission means for transmitting said commodity specifying information, said destination information and an order sheet input information to said server [purchase products on-line, col 6, lines 4-5, shopping basket 51, Fig 6, hypertext pages 53, Fig 6, col 7, lines 45-50].

Allsop discloses the elements as noted above.

Allsop fails to disclose a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair.

Rauhala discloses a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair [col 4, lines 24-35].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Allsop to include a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair as taught by Rauhala.

The ordinarily skilled artisan would have been motivated to modify Allsop per the above for the purpose of locating service centers for a particular product.

Claim 2:

Allsop discloses the elements of claim 1 as noted above.

Allsop fails to disclose wherein said dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means include a map of neighborhood of said destination showing places of said destination and said extracted dealing shop, and said display means of said user terminal displays said map.

Rauhala discloses wherein said dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means include a map of neighborhood of said destination showing places of said destination and said extracted dealing shop, and said display means of said user terminal displays said map [col 2, lines 25-31].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Allsop to include wherein said dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means include a map of neighborhood of said destination showing places of said destination and said extracted dealing shop, and said display means of said user terminal displays said map.

The ordinarily skilled artisan would have been motivated to modify Allsop per the above for the purpose of locating a service center for a particular product.

Claim 3:

Allsop discloses a commodity data base [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57] having commodity data of various kinds of commodities recorded so as to be retrieved; a dealing shop data base [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out delivery of said commodities including address recorded so as to be retrieved; commodity specifying means [user's terminal 20, Fig 3, col 4, lines 55-60] for

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referring to said commodity data base based on commodity specifying information transmitted from a user terminal through a network to specify a necessary commodity; dealing shop extracting means [user initiates a dealer search to locate the nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49] for referring to said dealing shop data base based on destination information transmitted from said user terminal through said network to extract at least a dealer shop in neighborhood of said destination; and server side transmission means [shopping basket 51, Fig 6 and col 7, lines 46-58] for transmitting commodity data of said commodity specified by said commodity specifying means, dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means and an order sheet to said user terminal [purchase products on-line col 6, lines 4-5].

Allsop discloses the elements as noted above.

Allsop fails to disclose a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair.

Rauhala discloses a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair [col 4, lines 24-35].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Allsop to include a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair as taught by Rauhala.

The ordinarily skilled artisan would have been motivated to modify Allsop per the above for the purpose of locating service centers for a particular product.

Claim 4:

The combination of Allsop and Rauhala discloses the elements of claim 3 as noted above.

Allsop discloses wherein said server has dealing shop specifying means for specifying a necessary dealing shop from among said dealing shops extracted by said dealing shop extracting means based on dealing shop specifying information transmitted from said user terminal through said network, and said server side transmission means transmits detailed data of said dealing shop specified by said dealing shop specifying means to said user terminal [col 5, lines 22-40].

Claim 5:

The combination of Allsop and Rauhala discloses the elements of claim 3 as noted above.

Rauhala discloses wherein said dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means include a map of neighborhood of said destination showing places of said destination and said extracted dealing shop [col 4, lines 24-35].

Claim 6:

Allsop discloses:

- access means for obtaining access to a server including a commodity data base having commodity data of various kinds of commodities recorded so as to be retrieved [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57],
- and dealing shop data base having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out delivery of said commodities including address recorded so as to be retrieved [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13];
- display means for displaying said commodity data, said dealing shop data and an order sheet transmitted from said server on a display surface [user's browser 24, Fig 3];

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- and user side transmission means for transmitting commodity specifying information, destination information and order sheet input information to said server through said network [purchase products on-line, col 6, lines 4-5, shopping basket 51, Fig 6, hypertext pages 53, Fig 6, lines 45-50].

Allsop discloses the elements as noted above.

Allsop fails to disclose a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair.

Rauhala discloses a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair [col 4, lines 24-35].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Allsop to include a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair as taught by Rauhala.

The ordinarily skilled artisan would have been motivated to modify Allsop per the above for the purpose of locating service centers for a particular product.

Claim 7:

The combination of Allsop and Rauhala discloses the elements of claim 6 as noted above.

Allsop discloses wherein said user side transmission means transmits dealing shop specifying information for specifying a dealing shop, and said display means displays detailed data of said specified dealing shop [col 5, lines 22-40, col 8, lines 39-49].

Claim 8:

The combination of Allsop and Rauhala discloses the elements of claim 6 as noted above.

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Rauhala discloses wherein said dealing shop data include a map of neighborhood of said destination showing places of said destination and said extracted dealing shop, and said display means displays said map [Rauhala, col 4, lines 24-35].

Claim 11:

Allsop discloses a commodity data base [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57] having commodity data of various kinds of commodities recorded so as to be retrieved; a dealing shop data base [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out delivery of said commodities including address recorded so as to be retrieved; commodity specifying means [user's computer 20, Fig 3, col 4, lines 55-60] for referring to said commodity data base based on commodity specifying information regarding a commodity to be dealt with as a gift transmitted from said user terminal to specify a necessary commodity; dealing shop extracting means [user initiates a dealer search to locate the nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49] for referring to said dealing shop data base based on consignee information regarding a consignee of said gift transmitted from said user terminal user's browser 24, Fig 3] to extract at least a dealing shop in neighborhood of said consignee [user initiates a dealer search to locate the nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49]; and server side transmission means for transmitting commodity data of said commodity specified by said commodity specifying means, dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means and an order sheet to said user terminal shopping basket 51, Fig 6 and col 7, lines 46-58], said user terminal comprising: display means for displaying said commodity data [user's browser 24, Fig 3], said dealing shop data and said order sheet transmitted from said server side transmission means on a display surface; and user terminal side

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transmission means for transmitting said commodity specifying information, said consignee information and an order sheet input information to said server purchase products on=line, col 6, lines 4-5, shopping basket 51, Fig 6, hypertext pages 53, Fig 6, col 7, lines 45-50].

Allsop discloses the elements as noted above.

Allsop fails to disclose a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair.

Rauhala discloses a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair [col 4, lines 24-35].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Allsop to include a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair as taught by Rauhala.

The ordinarily skilled artisan would have been motivated to modify Allsop per the above for the purpose of locating service centers for a particular product.

Examiner Notes:

The above phrase “regarding a commodity to be dealt with as a gift” is drawn to intended use and is not given patentable weight.

Claim 12:

The combination of Allsop and Rauhala discloses the elements of claim 11 as noted above.

Rauhala discloses wherein said dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means include a map of neighborhood of said consignee showing places

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of said consignee and said dealing shop, and said display means of said user terminal displays said map [col 4, lines 24-35].

Claim 13:

Allsop discloses a commodity data base [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57] having commodity data of various kinds of commodities recorded so as to be retrieved; a dealing shop data base [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out delivery of said commodities including addresses recorded so as to be retrieved; commodity specifying means [user's computer 20, Fig 3, col 4, lines 55-60] for referring to said commodity data base based on commodity specifying information regarding a commodity to be dealt with as a gift transmitted from a user terminal to specify a necessary commodity; dealing shop extracting means [user initiates a dealer search to locate the nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49] for referring to said dealing shop data base based on consignee information regarding a consignee of said gift transmitted from said user terminal to extract at least a dealing shop in neighborhood of said consignee; and server side transmission means for transmitting commodity data of said commodity specified by said commodity specifying means [shopping basket 51, Fig 6 and col 7, lines 46-58], dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means and an order sheet to said user terminal

Allsop discloses the elements as noted above.

Allsop fails to disclose a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair.

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Rauhala discloses a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair [col 4, lines 24-35].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Allsop to include a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair as taught by Rauhala.

The ordinarily skilled artisan would have been motivated to modify Allsop per the above for the purpose of locating service centers for a particular product.

Examiner Notes:

The above phrase “regarding a commodity to be dealt with as a gift” is drawn to intended use and is not given patentable weight.

Claim 14:

The combination of Allsop and Rauhala discloses the elements of claim 13 as noted above.

Allsop discloses wherein said server has dealing shop specifying means for specifying a necessary dealing shop from among dealing shops extracted by said dealing shop extracting means based on dealing shop specifying information transmitted from said user terminal through a network, and said server side transmission means transmits detailed data of dealing shop specified by said dealing shop specifying means to said user terminal [user initiates a dealer search to locate the nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49].

Claim 15:

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The combination of Allsop and Rauhala discloses the elements of claim 13 as noted above.

Rauhala discloses wherein said dealing shop data of said dealing shop extracted by said dealing shop extracting means include a map of neighborhood of said consignee showing places of said consignee and said dealing shop col 4, lines 24-35].

Claim 16:

Allsop discloses access means for obtaining access to a server including a commodity data base [dealer's web site 21, col 4, lines 55-57] having commodity data of various kinds of commodities recorded so as to be retrieved, and dealing shop data base [authorized dealer database 26, Fig 3, col 5, lines 7-13] having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out delivery of said commodities including addresses recorded so as to be retrieved [user initiates a dealer search to locate the nearest web linked dealer, col 8, lines 39-49]; display means for displaying said commodity data [user's browser 24, Fig 3], said dealing shop data and an order sheet transmitted from said server on a display surface; and user side transmission means for transmitting commodity specifying information for specifying a necessary commodity from said commodity data base, consignee information for extracting a dealing shop in neighborhood of said consignee of said gift from said dealing shop data base and an order sheet input information through a network to said server [purchase products on-line, col 6, lines 4-5, shopping basket 51, Fig 6, hypertext pages 53, Fig 6, col 7, lines 45-50]

Allsop discloses the elements as noted above.

Allsop fails to disclose a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair.

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Rauhala discloses a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair [col 4, lines 24-35].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Allsop to include a dealing shop database having dealing shop data of dealing shops carrying out inspection and repair as taught by Rauhala.

The ordinarily skilled artisan would have been motivated to modify Allsop per the above for the purpose of locating service centers for a particular product

Examiner Notes:

The above phrase “a dealing shop in neighborhood of said consignee of said gift” is drawn to intended use and is not given patentable weight.

Claim 17:

The combination of Allsop and Rauhala discloses the elements of claim 16 as noted above. Allsop discloses wherein said user side transmission means transmits dealing shop specifying information for specifying a dealing shop, and said display means displays detailed data of said specified dealing shop.

Claim 18:

The combination of Allsop and Rauhala discloses the elements of claim 16 as noted above. Rauhala discloses wherein said dealing shop data include a map of neighborhood of said consignee showing places of said consignee and said extracted dealing shop, and said display means displays said map [col 4, lines 24-35].

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Etienne LeRoux whose telephone number is (703) 305-0620.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

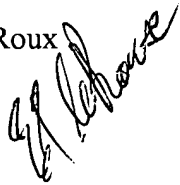
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (703) 308-1436.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Patent related correspondence can be forwarded via the following FAX number (703) 872-9306

Etienne LeRoux

2/26/2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Etienne LeRoux', written over the typed name and date.